

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 11199 291220Z

44

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 FEAE-00 OES-06 /070 W

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R 290918Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8127

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 11199

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, CH, PA

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE APPROACH TO PRC ON THE REED BANK

REF: MANILA 10751

1. AMBASSADOR DAVID TSUNG-HAN LIU OF THE PACIFIC ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CENTER HAS TOLD US THAT LEYTE GOVERNOR AND CONCURRENTLY PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR TO THE PRC "KOKOY" ROMUALDEZ RETURNED RECENTLY FROM PEKING EMPTY HANDED AFTER AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN PRC SUPPORT FOR, OR AT LEAST TACIT ACCEPTANCE OF, GOP POSITION ON PETROLEUM EXPLORATION IN THE REED BANK AREA. ROMUALDEZ WAS TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR SECRETARY ROMULO'S VISIT WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED FOR EARLY AUGUST BUT IS NOW REPORTEDLY POSTPONED TO SOMETIME AFTER THE UNGA.

2. AMBASSADOR LIU BELIEVES THAT RECENT GOP HARRASSMENT OF HIS MISSION, CLOSURE OF A POPULAR CHINESE-LANGUAGE TV AND RADIO SHOW FEATURING TAIWAN STARS AND MUSIC, ETC. OWED MUCH TO THE PHILIPPINE DESIRE TO OBTAIN PRC AGREEMENT TO THE GOP CLAIM TO THE REED BANK AREA. HE THOUGH THE GOP WAS INDULGING IN WISHFUL THINKING, FOR NEITHER THE PRC NOR THE SRV WOULD APPEAR WILLING
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PAGE 02 MANILA 11199 291220Z

TO FOREGOIN THEIR CLAIMS IN FAVOR OF THE PHILIPPINES.

SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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